Canadian
Pamphlets

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Norris, John Gustavus
Mr. J. G. Norris and the visit to Canada of H.R.H. the Prince of wales. 1876.

With the Compliments
of J G Norris

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Edward VII King of England

Norris, John Gustavus
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MR. J. G. NORRIS,

AND THE VISIT TO CANADA

OF H. R. H THE

PRINCE OF WALES.

(Printed for Private Circulation.)

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OTTAWA:
1876.

NOTE.

The present triumphal tour of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales through His Royal Mother, "the Empress of India's" great domain, recalls the fact, that Canada was the scene of H.R.H's first essay as a traveller, and the Canadian people were the first of the Queen's Colonial subjects honored by the great distinction of a visit from Royalty. As one who did not a little to bring about this event, the writer hopes he may be pardoned for putting on record, in the present shape, the evidence of his achievement, as some people have been pleased to call it. The writer regards the mission he volunteered to England in 1858—although knowing at the time that the lateness of the season would prevent a royal visit that year—as the happiest and most successful event of his life, and he naturally guards jealously the memorials of it. Since his arrival in Ottawa he has been repeatedly asked by friends for copies of the petition—which he could not supply, except in the present manner. As to the recommendation of the newspapers that he should receive some reward for his work in 1858, he would only remark, that as a Loyal Canadian he never asked for, nor does he expect any acknowledgement. To have contributed, in however slight a manner, towards the strength and unity of the grand old British Empire—the Mother of Nations—is to him a reward quite sufficient for what he did on the occasion referred to, and later on, in 1870, at the Union Convention at Yale. As this is the only occasion which he may have of speaking of the results of his visit to England, he avails himself of the opportunity of paying a humble but very sincere tribute to the departed statesman and man of letters, Lord Lytton, who was at the time at the head of the Colonial Office, as well as to the present head—Lord Carnarvon—then Under-Secretary. The writer can never forget the hearty kindness he experienced at the hands of these noblemen—noble by birth as well as by nature—and to them, perhaps, more than to anyone else, the writer has always felt, Canadians are mainly indebted for the Royal Tour that followed.

Ottawa, March, 1876.

Mr. J. G. Norris, and the Visit to Canada of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

A CANADIAN PETITION TO THE QUEEN.

From the Toronto Globe, 1858.

The propriety of sending a petition to the Queen of the British Empire, asking her to visit this portion of her dominions, has oftentimes been mooted, but never carried into effect. Rumours of her intention to come unasked have often reached us—but they, too, have proved unfounded. No one can doubt, should she ever venture across the Atlantic, that she would meet with a right loyal reception—a most cordial welcome from the people of Canada of all religions, of all races, and of all parties; for, whatever may be our differences on other points, we are all united in a hearty acknowledgment of the virtues of the Royal lady to whom we owe allegiance. There are, however, many difficulties in the way of her visiting Canada—difficulties which must occur to the minds of all, and which, perhaps, will never be overcome. These, however, do not apply in so great a measure to the Prince of Wales, whose presence, if we desire it less than that of his Royal mother, we do so because her character is a matter of history—his has yet to be established. As her representative, however, and as our future King, Canada will not be found wanting should he visit her shores. In October next, samples of manufactures of Western Canada will be exhibited in this city; her agricultural productions will also be displayed. What better opportunity could a Prince have of judging of the capabilities of this vast, and, we must add, almost unknown province of the British Empire? Acting upon this idea, Mr. John G. Norris, of Toronto, has the last few days been actively circulating the petition which will be found underneath. Attached to it are the

names of all the members of both Houses of Parliament who are in town, Opposition and Ministerial being lovingly commingled. Besides these, Mr. Norris has also procured the signatures of the judges, and many influential gentlemen in and out of office. He proceeds, we believe, to-day to Montreal, and thence to Quebec, where more names will be attached, and will sail for England on Saturday next. Mr. Norris has undertaken the task at his own expense, and upon his own responsibility; but, from the names attached to the petition, his project has received the endorsation of the Province :—

——:o:——

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE UNDERSIGNED CITIZENS OF TORONTO AND INHABITANTS OF CANADA GENERALLY, MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That your petitioners desire to approach your Majesty with an expression of their devoted loyalty and attachment to your Royal person and family.

That your petitioners beg leave respectfully to inform your Majesty that a Crystal Palace, similar in design, but of smaller dimensions to those of London and Paris, for the exhibition of the products of Canadian industry and skill, is in course of erection in Toronto and will be completed about the first day of October next.

That as your Majesty has been graciously pleased to honour the inauguration of similar undertakings in England and elsewhere with your Royal presence ;

Your petitioners most humbly pray that your Most Gracious Majesty will confer a mark of favour and distinction on your loyal subjects in Canada, of which they will always entertain the most grateful remembrance, by conferring your authority on His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, or some other member of your Majesty's Royal Family to proceed to Canada and to represent your Majesty in opening the Crystal Palace in this the most important dependency of Your Majesty's Empire.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

E. P. Taché, M. L. C.
James Crooks, M. L. C.
Geo. J. Goodhue, M. L. C.
N. F. Belleau, Speaker L. C.
P. B. de Blaquiere, M. L. C.
Adam Fergusson,
R. Matheson, M. L. C.
B. Seymour, M. L. C.
P. H. Knowlton, M. L. C.
John Ross, M. L. C.

P. H. Moore, M. L. C.
Ebenezer Perry, M. L. C.
G. S. Boulton, E. L. C.
J. Morris, M. L. C.
F. A. Quesnel, M. L. C.
J. Simpson, M. L. C.
Jas. Patton, M. L. C.
Chas. Wilson, M. L. C.
G. Sauveuse de Beaujeu, M. L. C.
D. M. Armstrong, M. L. C.
Hollis Smith, M. L. C.
Harmanneus Smith, M.L. C.
John Prince, M. L. C.
Elz. Duchesnay, M. L. C.
Edmund Murney M. L. C.
E. Cartier M. L. C.
P. M. Vankoughnet, M. L. C.
W. Agar Adamson, Chap. L. C.
R. Kimber, Gent. Usher Blk. Rod.
Henry Smith, Speaker Leg. Assem.
John A. Macdonald, M.P., Kingston
Thos. D'Arcy McGee, M.P., Montreal
George Brown, M.P.
Sidney Smith M.P., West Northumberland.
C. Alleyn, Provl. Secy.
Geo. E. Cartier, Atty. Genl. L. C.
Wm. Cayley, M.P., Renfrew.
J. B. Robinson, M. P., Toronto.
John Rose, M.P., Montreal.
Hector L. Langevin, Mayor Quebec, M. P. P.
W. McD. Dawson, M.P., city Three Rivers.
J. Sheridan Hogan, M.P., Grey.
G. Benjamin, M.P., North Hastings.
Jas. Moir Ferris, M.P., Brome.
John Cameron, M.P.
G. H. Dubord, M.P., Quebec.
J. E. Turcotte, M.P.P. Champlain.
T. L. Lee Terrill, M.P.P., Hanshaw.
Geo. Macbeth, M.P., Elgin.
John Carling, M.P., London.
Wm. McDougall, M.P., North Oxford.
O. R. Gowan, M.P., Leeds and Grenville, North.
R. W. Scott, M.P., Ottawa.
L. L. L. Desaulniers, M. P.
J. Elie Thibaudeau, M.P.
T. M. Daly, M.P., Perth.
J. C. Aikins, M.P., Peel.
Wm. Notman, M. P., North Wentworth.
J. Dufresne, M. P. P.
J. H. Pope, M. P. P., Compton.
Isaac Buchanan, M. P., Hamilton.
Edmund Heath, M. P., Pontiac.
John N. Clark, M.P.P., East Northumberland.
C. F. Fournier, M.P.P., Co. Isolet.
C. N. Panet, M.P.P., Co. Quebec.
M. W. Baby, M.P.P., Rimouski.
Geo. H. Simard, M.P., Quebec.
L. Lacoste, M.P., Chambly.
Marcus Talbot, M.P., East Middlesex.
A. Morrison, M.P., North Simcoe.
Robt. Spence, P. M. General.
John White, M.P., Co. Halton.
Lewis T. Drummond, Atty. Genl. L.C.
L. S. Morin, M.P.P., Terrebonne.
Wm. Patrick, M.P., Grenville.
Sydney Bellingham, M.P., Argenteuil.
David E. Price, M.P.P., Chicoutimi and Saguenay.
W. H. Foley, M. P.
J. C. Chapais, M.P.P., Kamouraska.
H. Munro, M.P.P., West Durham.
Jos. Gould, M.P.P., North Ontario.
Joseph Rymal, M.P.P., South Wentworth.
Wm. F. Powell, M.P., Co. Carleton.
Lewis Wallbridge, M. P., South Hastings.
G. McMicken, M.P., Welland.
John Simpson, M.P., Niagara.
J. S. Macdonald, M.P., Cornwall.
F. H. Burton, M.P., Durham.
John MacLeod, M.P., Essex.
R. Bell, M.P.P., Lanark.
Noel Hebert, M.P.P., Megantic.
G. B. Lyon Fellowes, M.P., Russell.
C. J. Laberge, Sol. Genl. L. C.
W. B. Lindsay, Clk. Leg. Assembly.
Dunbar Ross, M.P.P., Beauce.
L. V. Sicotte, M.P., St. Hyacinthe.
Christopher Dunkin, M.P.P., Drummond and Arthabaska.
Robt. Biggar, M.P.P., West Brant.

Jno. Holmes, M.P.P., Huron & Bruce.
A. P. McDonald, M.P., W. Middlesex.
M. Laframboise, M.P.P., Bagot.
D. Roblin, M.P.P., Lennox and Addington.
D. Stirton, M.P.P., S. Wellington.
Walker Powell, M.P.P., Norfolk.
L. Burwell, M.P.P., East Elgin.
D. E. Papineau, M.P.P., Ottawa Co.
E. H. Piche, M.P.P., Berthier.
W. H. Webb, M.P.P., Richmond and Wolfe.
R. B. Somerville, do., Huntington.
W. H. Boulton, Mayor Toronto.
W. B. Davis.
Fred. W. Jarvis, Sheriff York & Peel.
John Barclay, D.D., Minister St. Andrew's Church.
R. U. Harwood, do., Vaudreuil.
Jos. Laporte, do., Hochelaga.
A. W. Playfair, do., South Lanark.
Benjamin Tett, do., South Leeds.
G. C. Fortier, do., Bellechasse.
L. Archambault, do., L'Assumption.
Benj. Dionne, do., Temiscouata.
Willett C. Dorland, Prince Edward.
David Christie, M.P., East Brant.
J. Gaudet, M.P.P., Nicolet.
Adam N. McNab, Bart.
Wm. H. Blake, Chancellor.
A. McLean, J.
W. H. Draper, C.J.C.P.
John H. Hagarty, J.
Robert E. Burns, J.Q.B.
J. B. Macaulay, ex. C.J.C.B.
Wm. B. Richards, J.
J. G. Spragge, V.C.
John, Bishop of Toronto.
† A. M. de Charbonnell, Bishop of Toronto.
S. B. Harrison, Judge Co. Court.
John Carr, Alderman.
A. Brunel, do
John Purdy, Councilman.
W. H. Fox, do
D. B. Read, Alderman.
A. M. Smith, do
Geo. Boomer, do
Frederick Upton, Councilman.
Wm. Strachan, Alderman.
Henry Prittee, Councilman.
Christ. Mitchell, do
Jeremiah Carty, Alderman.
Robt. J. Griffith, Councilman.
Wm. Andy, do
Wm. Lennox, do
Henry Spratt, do
John Ritchie, Jr., Alderman.
Charles Daly, Clerk City Council.
Thos. Craig, Councilman.
Robt. W. Beard, Toronto.
Thos. Booth do
W. M. Gorrie, Ald. do
J. H. Patterson, do
Geo. H. Mills, Mayor of Hamilton.
John T. Moore, Ald., Hamilton.
Warren Holton, Alderman.
M. W. Browning, do
Wm. Davidson, do
R. N. Law, do
Lawrence Devaney, do
John Patterson do
Jas. Walker, Councillor St. George's Ward.
C. Rowlan, Councillor.
W. McGiverin, do
Geo. Ryall, M.D., do
James Mullin, T. C.
C. J. Tracy, Ald.
Geo. Morrison, Councillor.
John Waugh, do
E. Cartwright Thomas, Sheriff Wentworth.
Geo. Roach, Ald.
Thos. Clarkson, Presdt. Board of Trade, Toronto.
Geo. Buckland, Prof. of Agriculture, Univ. of Toronto.
G. T. Denison, Lt.-Col. commanding Mounted Active Militia.
J. M. Savage, Col. Royal Artillery.
David Glass, Mayor of London.

Colonial Office, 2nd September, 1858.

Sir,—With reference to the interview which you had with Lord Carnarvon this morning, His Lordship desires me to say, that he would be glad if you could call again at this office to-day at your earliest convenience.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
H. C. NORRIS,
Private Secretary.

John G. Norris, Esq.

CANADA'S INVITATION TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.

(*From the Morning Post.*)

A Crystal Palace for the exhibition of the products of Canadian industry and skill is about to be opened in Toronto; and the good people of the province, through Mr. J. G. Norris, have certified their devotion to "the Queen of Canada" by entrusting to the hands of that gentleman a petition which respectfully invites her Majesty either to preside in person at the inauguration of the Palace, or to authorize his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, or some other member of the royal family, "to represent her Majesty" at the interesting ceremony which, on the 1st of October, is to take place "in the most important depend-"ency of her Majesty's empire." Etiquette, we presume, would not permit the petitioners to approach the Throne with the formal invitation which they have felt themselves at liberty to prefer to the Prince of Wales, and therefore they merely remind her Majesty of the circumstance that "her Majesty has been graciously pleased to honour the "inauguration of similar undertakings in England and elsewhere with "her royal presence." Only one inference can be drawn from these words, namely, that the people of Canada, without distinction of creed or party, are anxious to receive the distinguished honour of a visit from her Majesty, and, failing in this, to have an opportunity of evincing their loyalty and devotion to the Prince who is destined at some future, and we hope distant, day to become King of the magnificent province of Canada. The petition, which we published *in extenso* on the 26th of August, has, we believe, been left with the Colonial Secretary for submission to her Majesty; and as it is a document which has received the signatures of all the leading men of the province, no one can doubt that the request which it contains will meet with the gracious and kind consideration of her Majesty. Canada, in the possession of responsible

self-government, is only united to England by that link of affectionate attachment to the British Crown and to the mother country, of which during the war of 1812, during the rebellion of 1837, and since the union of the two provinces, the vast majority of the population has given such marked, such emphatic, such constant, and such noble proofs. The electric telegraph has now connected Great Britain with the continent of America; and whilst the people of the United States and of Canada rejoice thankfully and hopefully at this last crowning triumph of science—one which is destined to consolidate the power of the Anglo-Saxon race to an extent the results of which no man can venture to predict—the loyalty and devotion of the people of Canada can now be surely gratified, and the friendship of the people of the United States can now be permanently secured, by the progress of the Queen of Great Britain through "the most important dependency of her empire," and by her visit to that great neighbouring Republic, the citizens of which would enthusiastically hail her presence amongst them as the restoration of that intimate relationship between nations identical in origin, language, religion, and liberty, of which the electric telegraph is the material but imperfect type. If her Majesty should visit Canada she will see a happy, contented, industrious, and loyal people advancing in prosperity at a rate which has never been equalled even in the history of the marvellous progress of the United States. She will see a magnificent country, rich in natural products—a country which at present is the home of three millions of her subjects, and which, half-a-century hence, will be inhabited by a population which will constitute a great and powerful nation. She will see what the enterprise of Britain in Canada has already accomplished—the vast canals which unite the St. Lawrence and the ocean with those inland seas which penetrate the very heart of the continent. She will see the Grand Trunk Railway, the longest separate line of communication which exists in the world; and she will see the Victoria Bridge, a structure with which her royal name has been gracefully and appropriately associated. She will, moreover, see that English institutions, English liberty, English self-reliance, and English loyalty are plants which do not deteriorate in the soil of Canada. The day is not far distant when the rich commerce of the East will be borne from the Pacific, through Canada, to the ports of England and of continental Europe. The day is not far distant when British civilization and British enterprise will stretch from Canada to the Far West—to those gold regions the discovery of the wealth of which has laid the foundation of a new British empire on the coasts of the Pacific. The time which has been chosen by the people of Canada to prefer this

respectful request is singularly opportune; and physical science has accomplished a grand and lasting triumph by bringing into intimate union the two great families of the Anglo-Saxon race. Then, let this happy and auspicious event be signalized by the gracious condescension of her MAJESTY in yielding to the affectionate wishes of her Canadian subjects, and by visiting that great Republic the citizens of which know as well as Englishmen how to appreciate the personal virtues and the womanly graces of the illustrious Lady who at once adorns and elevates the British Throne.

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THE QUEEN—CANADA.

(From the Leinster Express.)

The importance to England of her North American colonies is daily becoming more apparent; each development of science, and every success attendant upon commercial enterprise drawing more closely the ties that connect the daughter to the mother country. In this respect "progress" is marked upon every uddertaking, as if Providence would aid those who have shown themselves so willing to employ their own energies. Discoveries of the precious metals, and of fertile tracts, which hitherto lay unnoticed in the far-western territories of our Sovereign, have drawn to those regions a considerable share of earnest attention. Golden links connect the inhabitants of those colonies with Great Britain; the ties of kindred, religion and ancestry are strongly felt; and another bond of union is duly acknowledged and appreciated, in the imperial diadem that encircles the brows of our beloved Queen. These relations shall, we trust, ever remain unbroken, and from the increasing magnitude of the interests involved, every precaution should be taken to strengthen the attachment subsisting between all parts of Her Majesty's dominions. Canada has for a long period enjoyed the reputation of being the most loyal as well as the most substantially prosperous of all our distant possessions; and at present it does not yield to any part of the United Kingdom in devotion to the Crown and institutions of Great Britain. The inhabitants of those Provinces have on all occasions resisted seductions of their allegiance, and they now stand in a prominent position—happy and wealthy in their connection, and enjoying to the fullest extent civil, religious and social advantages.

An interesting manifestation of the loyalty of the Canadians has just been made in the address recently sent to the Queen, soliciting the honor of a visit, and Her Majesty's presence at the inauguration

of the exhibition of art and industry which was to be opened on the 1st of October. The memorial was signed by the members of both Houses of the Colonial Parliament, and by the clergy, gentry, and influential persons in the Province; and it was entrusted for presentation to Mr. Norris, of Toronto. So suitable an act of homage to the Queen, and so graceful an acknowledgment of the interest she has always shown in the welfare of her subjects, could not fail to be duly appreciated. Although from the shortness of the notice and the late season of the year she could not have complied, it may still be expected—possibly next year, or at least before long—from the facilities of communication, and the gratification it would afford our fellow subjects across the Atlantic, Canada will be favored with the presence of Royalty. Even by the citizens of the Great Republic the visit would be hailed with delight, and the occasion would tend to the mutual benefit. In itself the event would be full of interest, but as an evidence of kindly feeling between communities derived from one common stock, though sundered by geographical barriers, it would undoubtedly be well received. Moreover, as a proof that natural impediments form no insurmountable hindrance to the intimate unity of a nation, and that the results of skill and science are seen in the annihilation of time and distance, rendering communication rapid and locomotion safe, the visit of our Queen to America would stand forth a prominent occurrence in our national history. Exemplifying in her person the principles of law and order, and representing, as she does, the most influential kingdom in the world, Victoria would be hailed upon the American continent, not only as a sovereign around whom all the affections of her people cluster, but as the embodiment of those principles which have raised her subjects to such an elevation amongst the nations. The feelings thus elicited would naturaly be participated in by the citizens of the United States, for in little save the name, and the elective tenure of their President, do their constitution, laws and customs differ from our own; while the same mercantile, manufacturing and scientific energy,—the industry, perseverance and ingenuity that so eminently characterize the entire race, are alike attributable to the residents of both sides of the boundary line. Some have stated that the invitation could not be complied with in consequence of the omission of a point of etiquette—the Governor General not having been made the medium of communication; but such a motive could not, we are persuaded, be attributed to the Queen, who would not suffer a mere punctilio to thwart the wishes of her people, or prevent her cordially supporting any measure that would tend to their advantage. Though careful of the true dignity of her court, she has been ever more desirous

of reigning in the hearts of her subjects, and of establishing her throne as much by regard for her own person as by the monarchial predilections of these countries. We trust, therefore, that the time is not far distant when the wishes of our Canadian fellow subjects will be gratified, and the inhabitants of that distant province will be gladdened with the presence of so august a visitor.

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ROYALTY IN THE NEW WORLD.

(From the London Press.)

Our Canadian fellow-subjects have sent home by the last steamer a rather singular petition, asking us to "lend them the loan" of the Prince of Wales. The special plea for this request is the circumstance that a Grand Exhibition of Industry and Art—presenting, in fact, the Hyde Park Crystal Palace of 1851 translated into Canadese—will be opened in Toronto next month, and the inauguration ceremony would be attended with tenfold eclat if graced with the presence of some scion of the Royal Family. It is true that the particular petitioner in the case is a private gentleman, John G. Norris, Esq., of Toronto, who has undertaken the affair at his own expense and responsibility, and has come to England with the hope of inducing his Royal Highness to accept the invitation. But attached to the *billet*, as we are told, are the names of "all the members "of both Houses of Parliament who are in town; Opposition and Minis- "terial being lovingly intermingled," together with those of all the judges, and many influential gentlemen in and out of office. The petition, though ostensibly private, is practically imbued with a public and national character. Canada, indeed, has long yearned for a glimpse of Royalty, and as the Sovereign herself was a prize beyond hope, the colonists have thought it no rash request to ask for a visit from the Heir Apparent. Well! why not? The American possessions of the English Crown exceed in geographical dimensions those in any other quarter of the globe. Their commercial and political importance we have only just begun to ascertain. "A dreary sea may roll between," as Coleridge sings and the *Times* remarks, apropos of this very subject. But Majesty has lately taken to navigation; and in these days a few degrees of longitude or latitude, more or less, are of no great consequence. When Noble yachtmen like Lord Dufferin visit Iceland merely for the fun of the thing, there can be no real reason either on the score of time, difficulty, or peril, why a Prince of Wales should not cross the Atlantic. In the mere calculation of time and risk it is undeniable that the voyage to Halifax, as at present performed, involves far less danger, and not much

more delay, than were necessarily encountered by Dutch William when visiting his favourite retreat at the Hague, or by any of the Georges in those periodical elopements to Hanover which gave so much umbrage to their British subjects. A political motive, perhaps, stronger than that offered by the Industrial Exhibition, seems to suggest compliance with this petition. There exists just now a little "difficulty" between the British Crown and the Colonial Legislature. Her Majesty, at their own request, selected Ottawa as the future metropolis for the United Provinces of Canada. The local Parliament rejected this choice. One Ministry resigned in consequence. Their successors, after a week's enjoyment of office, fell also before a vote of non-confidence. The former Administration, slightly recast and reinforced, have, therefore, resumed the reins of power—but upon the condition, as the last advices state, of surrendering the metropolitan question. The doubt as to the future capital of Canada remains, therefore, unsolved, and the indignity cast on the British Crown uncancelled. The crisis in both aspects might be conquered at once if the present petition were conceded. Suppose, for instance, the Prince of Wales were to arrive in Canada with the title of Duke of Ottawa, the choice of that locality for their metropolis would be accepted by the Canadian public amidst a chorus of loyal acclamation.

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THE PROPOSED ROYAL VISIT TO CANADA.

(From the Court Journal.)

We learn that Mr. Norris, the gentleman who has been deputed by all the leading men in Canada to visit this country, to invite the Queen or some member of the Royal Family to grace by their presence the inauguration of the Exhibition at Montreal, has had very satisfactory interviews with Sir E. B. Lytton and the Earl of Carnarvon. It happens that all the arrangements of Her Majesty and of her illustrious family are made for the autumn; so that there is no hope of a mission, which deserves to succeed for its loyalty's sake, being fulfilled exactly in the way that our Canadian fellow-subjects have desired. But there is a hope, and a well-grounded hope too, that in the course of next summer the people of our great American dependencies will have their feelings gratified by a visit from some prominent member of the Royal Family, such as the Prince of Wales, if not of the Queen and the Prince Consort. This much we are enabled to say already. We are also enabled to say, that the loyal and affectionate sentiments which have prompted a request so unusual, and in some respects so

courageous, are fully appreciated in the highest quarters. We believe, therefore, that we may prepare the public mind for something like a royal progress in Canada in the good year 1859.

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ROYAL VISIT TO CANADA.

(From the Morning Post.)

The mail which sails to Canada to-day will convey to the people of the Province the disagreeable intelligence that Her Majesty "is under the necessity of declining the request that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, or some other member of the royal family, should proceed to Canada with the view of opening the Crystal Palace at Toronto." Her Majesty, however, is understood to have expressed her high appreciation of the loyalty which dictated the wishes of the petitioners, and a hope that the proposed exhibition "will produce important results to Canada." Sir Bulwer Lytton, in the performance of his duty as Colonial Secretary, has managed with the pen of a graceful and accomplished writer, to embody Her Majesty's refusal in terms which, it may be hoped, will sensibly mitigate the disappointment which the receipt of such a communication is sure to create among a people whose devotion to their sovereign is as intense as it is universal. We now dismiss this subject, merely adding that the gentleman who was the bearer of the petition to this country, Mr. Norris, discharged his delicate mission with great good taste and judgment; and also our hope that on some future and perhaps more convenient occasion, not only the Prince of Wales, but Her Majesty "the Queen of Canada," may herself condescend to pay a visit to the most magnificent dependency of her vast colonial empire.

——o——

A QUEEN; IF NOT,—A PRINCE!

(From the South London Journal.)

Within these few weeks the Americans—both Canadians and Statesmen—have been hankering after the sight of a crowned head. The New York journals are decidedly of opinion that the time is favorable for this novel flight of Royalty. The Queen should go to Canada, they think. "Let her come by all means," says the *Herald*, "and visit her Republican cousins too; she would get such a reception in New York just now as never greeted monarch in the world before." We have not a doubt of our contemporary's sincerity, or of the accuracy of his estimate of American feeling. Canada, however, as is but natural, has outstripped

the Union in its aspirations, and we must now surprise our readers with the announcement that, thovgh our North American brethren discern some difficulties in attracting the Queen, a Canadian gentleman has arrived by the last steamer to see if he can't borrow the Prince of Wales. At Toronto, on the 1st proximo, there is to be a Great Exhibition opened —a regular Crystal Palace, not quite so grand as that in Hyde Park or the Champs Elysees, but of good colonial proportions, and similar in design. Now that these exhibitions should be inaugurated by Sovereigns or Princes has become a fixed principle, and the Canadians think their future King would be the very Prince for the occasion. It will be thought a remarkable illustration of the force and individuality pervading Transatlantic character when we add that this proposal for the loan of our Heir Apparent does not proceed from the Legislature, the Administration, the authorities, or indeed any officials of the colony whatever, but has been undertaken by a private gentleman at his own cost and on his own responsibility. He put into circulation a petition, which will be found in another column, procured the signatures of such members of parliament as happened to be "in town," and, fortified by this public "endorsation," started on his own hook, and has arrived, we are told, by the Persia on the prosecution of his complimentary errand. Mr. John G. Norris, for that is the name of this independent envoy, will not, we are afraid, tempt the Prince of Wales, but he will learn that we appreciate the invitation, and that we wish every success to the colony and to its Exhibition. In fact, we have not the smallest doubt that the journals of Canada and the Union are entirely right in predicting for a Royal visit to America, when the fullness of time may bring about such an event, the most triumphant and unprecedented success.

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THE QUEEN AND THE CANADIANS.

(From the London Times.)

On Saturday evening Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed an official communication to Mr. Norris, embodying the answer of Her Majesty to the petition, of which he was recently the bearer to this country, from citizens of Toronto and inhabitants of Canada. It will be recollected that the petition in question stated that a Crystal Palace similar in design, but of smaller dimensions to those of London and Paris, for the exhibition of the products of Canadian industry and skill, is in the course of erection in Toronto, and will be completed about the 1st of Oct.; and the memorialists, remember-

ing that Her Majesty had been pleased to honour the inauguration of similar undertakings in this country and elsewhere with her presence, prayed that she would confer a mark of favour on her loyal subjects in Canada, by giving authority to the Prince of Wales or some other member of the Royal Family, to proceed to Toronto and represent her at the opening of the Crystal Palace there. This document was signed by 180 of the chief citizens of Toronto and inhabitants of other parts of Canada, including, among others, Sir Allan M'Nab, the Hon. N. F. Belleau, the Speaker, and 25 members of the Legislative Council, the Hon. Henry Smith, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Brown, the recent Premier, Mr. Macdonald, the present head of the Government, and a large number of men of all parties in that branch of the Legislature; Chancellor Blake and eight other of the judges, both the Protestant and Catholic Bishops of Toronto, the Mayor and Corporation of that city, the Mayor and Town Council of Hamilton, the President of the Board of Trade, and several of the military authorities high in command. The idea of inviting a member of the Royal Family to Canada, to grace the opening of the Crystal Palace, appeared to have originated with Mr. Norris himself, a private citizen, but it speedily became so popular among the citizens that, although only some ten days were spent in putting it into execution, the most influential of them endorsed and sanctioned it to the extent just described. It was then far on in August, the Crystal Palace was to be opened early in October, and it was evident that no time was to be lost in transmitting the petition to this country if the object in view was to have a chance of success. The proper course in such cases is to transmit such a document through the Governor of the colony, but Mr. Norris was unlearned in the ordinary usage on such occasions, and, without intending any disrespect to Sir Edmund Head, he brought the petition to England himself, instead of sending it through his Excellency's hands. This circumstance, it seems, has rather detracted from the character and effect of Mr. Norris's mission; but still the memorial bore upon the face of it such strong evidence of the extent and spontaneity of the popular feeling in Canada on the subject to which it related that its promoters might perhaps be excused for overlooking some necessary formality, and the Colonial Secretary himself has so regarded it. Sir Bulwer Lytton, in the letter he has just addressed to Mr. Norris, is understood to have stated, after a passing reference to the departure from the ordinary custom, in not transmitting the petition through the Governor of the Province, that he had deemed it his duty, considering the eminence of the persons whose names were attached to it, to lay it before the Queen,

who had been pleased to receive it very graciously, though she was under the necessity of declining the request that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales or some other member of the Royal Family should proceed to Canada with the view of opening the Crystal Palace at Toronto. Her Majesty, it is also understood, highly appreciates the loyalty to the Crown and the attachment to her person and family which prompted the wishes of the petitioners, and expresses her sincere good wishes for the success of the proposed exhibition, and a hope that it will produce important and useful results to Canada.

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From the London Daily News.

A new and somewhat startling demand has been made upon the good-humored readiness with which the Queen has ever responded to invitations from any local section of her people to come amongst them. Our countrymen in Canada have put forth a claim to a visit. They have expressed a wish that, if not the Queen herself, some member of her family, might grace by their presence the inauguration of this autumn's Exhibition at Toronto. Such an unprecedented request has not unnaturally been demurred to. The Queen's arrangements for the season are made. She and her Royal Consort are judiciously averse to involving their children prematurely in public life. They are anxious to keep them free as long as possible from the trammels of State pageantry. And yet, is a Royal progress to the Canadas an impossibility? By steam and rail Galway can be reached in about a day. In six days the Royal yacht might reach Newfoundland or Nova Scotia from Galway. Six weeks would amply suffice for the out-and-home voyage to and from the principal cities of British North America. Such a visit would do more than more substantial benefits to rivet the loyalty of the colonists to the Crown. Our Colonial fellow-subjects feel, and not without reason, that they are scarcely made sufficient account of in the mother country. While the news of foreign States is eagerly run after, comparatively few ask what is passing in our Colonies. Illustrious strangers—French, Dutch and Russian—are eagerly feted, but the most distinguished of our colonists are allowed to come and go with scarcely any notice. And yet how infinitely more important to us are our Colonies than any alien nation! How much larger a space ought their leading spirits to occupy in our estimation! This neglect, we have had reason to know, is deeply felt throughout our Colonial Empire. It was a mistake, when sending telegraphic messages to the

President of the United States, to overlook entirely the Governors and Legislatures of our own American Provinces. The under-current of resentment which flows from this neglect might be materially checked by a Royal visit to Canada. As far as regards time, we have shown that there are no insuperable obstacles to such a visit. And for our sailor Queen, with all the luxurious appliances of her royal yacht, it would, we confidently believe, be a source of unmingled pleasure. The glorious St. Lawrence would afford spectacles yet ungazed on by any crowned head. Elizabeth—like the poet's *Gloriana*, in whom she was shadowed forth—was contented to receive from her adventurous knights tidings of the strange new world they had visited: Victoria may see it with her own eyes.

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THE PREMIER.

(From the Toronto Colonist, Dec., 1858.)

The Hon. Mr. Cartier, who was a passenger by the Africa, arrived in Montreal on Saturday, and will, we understand, be in town early in the week. Mr. Cartier, as we learn from papers received by the last mail, has had the distinguished honor of being for several days Her Majesty's guest at Windsor Castle. A distinction such as this, conferred upon the Prime Minister of Canada, is of no trifling significance. In the most important point of view it tells the world that the representatives of the great Transatlantic Provinces of the Empire are held by the Sovereign—the fountain of honor—to rank socially and politically with the titled ambassadors of the proudest of European monarchies. As servants of the Crown it places them upon the same footing as the great officers of state. It gracefully gives the people of Canada a right to ask that their Sovereign will allow them to show upon the banks of the St. Lawrence, how well they can appreciate the courtesies extended to their representatives on the shores of the Thames; and lastly, it scatters to the winds the malicious and unpatriotic forebodings of those who predicted, as they, no doubt, earnestly desired, that through their representative their country would be dishonored, and a triumph given to their selfish partizanship.

Fortunately we have in Sir E. Bulwer a Colonial Minister who knows how to appreciate, and who dares to encourage the loyalty of the Canadians; who can understand the feelings of the people as well as the material wants of the country, and who is too astute and too manly to yield to the outcry of faction what is due to the dignity of the empire.

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CANADIANS AT COURT.

(*From the Globe, Sept. 29, 1858.*)

The *European* (Liverpool) *Times* of the 13th publishes the following:—

"It will gratify our Canadian friends to know that they are in high favor at the English Court at present. The loyalty of the Canadians to the British Crown is more than a sentiment—it is a passion; and the request which was lately made by them that the Queen would visit their fine colony, has been reciprocated in a way which cannot fail to excite the most pleasurable emotions on the other side of the Atlantic. The Hon. Mr. Cartier, on a special invitation, joined the Royal circle, on Saturday last, at Windsor Castle, and remained until Monday—a proof of the Queen's desire to honor the representatives of the North American provinces. It was stated some months back that the Queen, in all probability, at no distant day, would pay a visit to those magnificent and progressive provinces, and the compliment paid to Mr. Cartier gives significance to the assurance. Her Majesty loves sight-seeing, and the spirit of adventure is a part of her character. Both would be largely gratified by the visit. Once in Canada, she would show herself, no doubt, on the soil of the Great Republic, and reciprocate in person the assurances of affection towards the inhabitants which she transmitted in her message through the Atlantic cable. The visit, however, whenever it takes place, cannot be delayed until the usual period for the prorogation of Parliament, for a Canadian winter would probably be too much for the Royal nerves. Between May and September ample time would be afforded for carrying out the arrangements of an extensive trip, during which time such portions of the Western hemisphere as she desired to visit would be seen to the greatest advantage."

Good for evil. The Ministerial press lately assailed Mr. Norris for presuming to visit England at his own expense, as the bearer of the memorial to Her Majesty, anent a visit to Canada. The self-supporting ambassador and his mission were held up to ridicule as presumptuous in the extreme; and dire were the consequences predicted for Canadians who should hereafter visit the British metropolis. These dignified censors declared that Mr. Norris had for a time rendered Canada odious in the sight of Majesty. Behold now the result! "The request" conveyed by Mr. Norris is "reciprocated" by the Queen. The abused Mr. Norris managed to place Canadians "in high favor" at Court. He paved the way for Canadians at Windsor. And Mr. Cartier, the head of the government whose organs ridiculed Mr. Norris's course, is actually the first man to profit by the Norrisian labors! Of course, Mr. Cartier will be profoundly

grateful to Mr. Norris. In future, we expect, the organs will not mention that gentleman without applauding the service he rendered to Mr. Cartier and Canadians generally. If the *European Times* may be believed, every Canadian who may in future have the honor of dining with the Queen, is bound to remember that he is indebted to the abused Mr. Norris for a passport to the affections of our gracious Sovereign.

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REPLY OF THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Downing Street, 11th Sept., 1858.

Sir,—I cannot but regret that the petition from the Citizens of Toronto and Inhabitants of Canada generally, which I had the honor to receive from you, was not transmitted according to usage, through the Governor of the Province. But as the time in which it was necessary that the petition should receive an answer would not allow of my consulting the Local Government on the subject of it, and considering the eminence of the names attached to it, I have deemed it my duty to lay the petition before the Queen, who has been pleased to receive it very graciously, and I am commanded by Her Majesty to state that, while under the necessity of declining the request that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales or some other Member of Her Majesty's Family should proceed to Canada with the view of opening the Crystal Palace at Toronto, which is to be completed about the first of October, Her Majesty appreciates the loyalty to the Crown and the attachment to Her person and family which prompted the wish of the petitioners. I have also to add the expression of Her Majesty's sincere good wishes for the success of the Exhibition itself, which Her Majesty trusts will produce important and useful results to Canada.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed.] EDWARD BULWER LYTTON.

To J. G. Norris, Esq., Bridge House Hotel, London Bridge.

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RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORONTO.

Passed Dec. 6th, 1858.

Resolved—That the letter of the Right Honourable the Colonial Secretary, conveying the reply of Her Most Gracious Majesty to the petition of the Mayor and citizens of Toronto and other Inhabitants of this Province, praying Her Majesty to allow His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales or some other member of the Royal Family to visit Canada for the purpose of opening the industrial Exhibition at Toronto, be entered on the journals of this Council.

That the thanks of the Council are hereby ordered to be conveyed to Mr. John Gustavus Norris for the energy displayed by him in proceeding to England with the petition, and that this Council take the occasion to express its fervent hope that at no distant day the citizens of Toronto may have the opportunity of welcoming their beloved Sovereign or some member of Her Royal Family among them.

Witness my hand, and the Seal of the City of Toronto,
(City Seal.) this 26th day of January, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-nine.

(Signed) ADAM WILSON, Mayor,

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THE PRINCE OF WALES AT TORONTO.

Illustrated London News, Oct. 27, 1860.

The fine capital of Western Canada, Toronto, gave to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—as recorded in this Journal—a noble and magnificent reception. At every step during his progress the Prince was welcomed with genuine British cheers; but at Toronto at least a hundred thousand British American throats gave out the loyal cry. Extending along the whole front of the city is a magnificent esplanade. Near its western extremity was the spot selected for the Prince's disembarkation. Here a splendid pavilion was erected facing the city; it stood upon raised ground, and upon a dais was placed a Royal throne. The hangings were of crimson, blue and white, and the whole admirably disposed and adorned with green leaves and festoons of flowers. The whole was surmounted with a Royal crown, on all sides protected by flags. Standing on the dais under the pavilion a sight met the eyes of the Prince on his being conducted to the spot from the place of disembarkation which probably he will never forget. On each side of the pavilion an immense

amphitheatre had been erected capable of holding 10,000 persons. Beyond this, again, was a wide street, flanked with a further platform. The whole amphitheatre was exceedingly gay with trophies of flags and armorial bearings on shields affixed to tall posts, each of which was ornrmented with a gaily-coloured genfalon. But the greatest charm of the place was the entrance-arch, which spanned the street and faced the dais at the distance of some hundred yards. This was certainly a most magnificent arch. It was of the Grecian order, but exceedingly rich in ornament. Its height was upwards of sixty feet, and the street it spanned could not be less than the same number of feet broad. The pillars were massive, palmated at the top; the architrave, enblature, &c., were all perfect of their kind; and the interior of the arch was adorned with beautiful fresco paintings, and the whole surmounted with a shield bearing the Royal arms and a Royal crown, supported on each side by a fine display of flags—the whole, again, still further decorated with a couple of gonfalons, which floated from lofty poles erected upon the crown of the arch. When His Royal Highness mounted the Royal dais the day was fast declining; but the sight, though dimly seen, was truly magnificent. There were, probably, from 15,000 to 20,000 persons present, Tier after tier of the seats in the amphitheatre were filled, and, under the leadership of the cathedral organist, Mr. Cartier, sang "God Save the Queen" with wondrous effect. "It is impossible (says the correspondent of the *Morning Post*) to do justice to the imposing spectacle presented when the vast and excited assembly stood up and united in one tremendous burst of cheering, which lasted many moments, on the appearance of the Prince; the ladies wildly waving their handkerchiefs, the men nearly killing themselves with shouting the loyal hurrah, many bands of music playing the National Anthem, and 5,000 young and enthusiastic throats pronouncing the words of the British hymn. The Prince was intensely affected at this glorious welcome—a welcome so hearty, so truly magnificent, that its remembrance can never be blotted out from his memory."

The Prince's Visit to Montreal.—The Prince of Wales before leaving Canada deposited in the Bank of Montreal, to the credit of the Governor-General, a large sum of money to be distributed among certain educational institutions named, "as some token of the very great gratification which his Royal Highness has derived from the interesting visit now nearly completed, and as a proof of the deep interest which he must always take in the future progress of this magnificent Province. His Royal Highness wishes that the sums appropriated to each should be

applied in the distribution of prizes to the students in such way as may be suggested by the governing body as most conducive to the interests of the institutions, subject in each case to your approval." Queen's College, Kingston, receives £200, and proposes to found a scholarship or bursary to be called "The Prince of Wales's Bursary," and to be annually competed for by the students.

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AN OLD FRIEND.

(*From the Ottawa Times, Feb. 24, 1876.*)

An old friend of Canada has turned up in Ottawa within the past few days in the person of Mr. John Gustavus Norris. This gentleman, it may be remembered, in the year 1858, proceeded to England, at his own expense, to lay before the Queen a petition from her loyal Canadian subjects, praying Her Majesty to be graciously pleased to allow the Heir Apparent to visit Canada for the purpose of opening the Provincial Exhibition in Toronto. Although not immediately successful in the object of his mission, there can be no manner of doubt that Mr. Norris paved the way for the subsequent visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales —an event full of pleasing reminiscences, and which was productive in many ways of great benefit to Canada and Canadians. Mr. Norris was not in Canada when the Royal tour was made, or it is probable he would not have been overlooked at the distributon of good things which took place at its termination. On his return from England he had turned his eyes to the new El Dorado on the Pacific slope, and there in the present Province of British Columbia, he took up his residence, and labored zealously, as a good Canadian (although not one by birth), towards the accomplishment of the subsequent Union with the Dominion. It is said that on hearing of the Prince's arrival in Toronto, an event he had done so much to bring about, the old gentleman was profoundly affected. Mr. Norris is now in *old* Canada for the first time since his departure for British Columbia in 1859, and we had yesterday the pleasure of perusing a copy of the petition which he caused to be laid before the Queen by the late Lord Lytton. Although the period be short, times and faces have changed since 1858, but we have still amongst us many of those who then, in all loyalty and duty, appended their names to Mr. Norris's petition. Sir Etienne Tache, Chancellor Blake, Sir George Cartier, Sir Allan McNab, Bishop Strachan, Thos. D'Arcy McGee, Sandfield Macdonald, Sir James Macaulay, Philip Vankoughnet, Chief Justice McLean, Sir Henry Smith, John SheridanHogan, Marcus Talbot,

and Dr. Adamson have passed away; but we have still with us Sir John Macdonald, George Brown, Chief Justice Richards, R. W. Scott, Sir Narcisse Belleau, H. L. Langevin, David Christie, J. B. Robinson, J. C Aikins, William McDougall, Edmund Heath, David E. Price, John Simpson, Joseph Rymal, and Louis Lacoste. The document is of great interest, especially at the present moment, when the good Prince is making a second royal tour, this time through his royal mother's Eastern possessions; and in looking over its many pages, the thought has not unnaturally suggested itself that a gentleman who was so largely instrumental in bringing about so important an event as the one we have referred to, ought not to be forgotten in these days of C.M.G.'s. Surely if it pleases the Colonial Office to decorate every quiet-going Governor's Secretary on his return from five years' stay in the colonies, with the Ribbon of the Order, the smaller honor might with propriety be accorded to one who has done something to merit recognition at the hands of our gracious Sovereign.

MR. J. G. NORRIS.

(From the Ottawa Free Press, March 13th, 1876.)

Mr. J. G. Norris, formerly of Toronto, who, it will be remembered, originated the idea of a visit to Canada by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and who himself, in 1858, at his own expense, carried the petition in behalf of that object to the foot of the Throne, is now in Ottawa, after an absence from Canada of eighteen years. Mr. Norris, in the service to which we have referred, did much towards securing the unity of the Empire in this portion of Her Majesty's dominions, and thereby placed the country and all who value "British connection" under no inconsiderable obligation to him. Absent from Canada at the time of the Royal Visit, he has never received reward or acknowledgment for his loyal and unselfish service—nor do we know that he expects anything. But it would be a graceful act, if some mark of royal favor were now bestowed upon him.

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